



**US Army Corps
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Philadelphia District

News Release

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— FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE —

Francis E. Walter Dam White Water Release for August 20 and 21 is cancelled

PHILADELPHIA (August 17, 2005) --- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and its partners Delaware River Basin Commission, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, and Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources cancelled the scheduled white water release from the Francis E. Walter Dam for the weekend of August 20 and 21.

In an effort to enhance recreational opportunities along the Lehigh River, the cooperating agencies developed and implemented its 2005 short-term flow management plan for the Francis E. Walter Dam. This plan was made to preserve, as much as possible, the cooler water region, and minimize impacts to fish spawning habitat in the reservoir until the end of June while making releases that would support white water recreation and enhance downstream fisheries.

Through late July, and with some modifications, the plan provided for more white water release days than in previous years, and also augmented flows downstream. However, due to regional precipitation levels being significantly lower than the historic average, the 35 feet of water originally stored to achieve the recreation objectives of the 2005 plan has been fully depleted, and the reservoir is currently at its normal pool level. Until such a time that the inflow to the reservoir increases significantly, the outflow will match the inflow, in which case no water can be stored.

Future scheduled white water releases from the F.E. Walter Dam face the potential of being cancelled unless there is significant rainfall which raises the water level within the reservoir.

Date	Target Flow
August 6 – 7	CANCELLED
August 20 - 21	CANCELLED
September 3 – 4	Target flow 750 – 1000 cfs
September 17 – 18	Target flow 750 – 1000 cfs
October 1 – 2	Target flow 750 – 1000 cfs

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Public involvement and support in the development and refinement of the current flow management plan have been helpful and will continue to be the key to the success of future plans concerning flow management of the F. E. Walter Dam and recreation along the Lehigh River. The public is encouraged to continue providing comments and other input to the ongoing study by visiting our website <http://www.nap.usace.army.mil/Projects/FEWalter/index.htm>.

For further information please contact Merv Brokke, Philadelphia District, at 215.656.6032 or email mervin.e.brokke@usace.army.mil or call the Philadelphia District Water Release Hotline at 215.656.6931 or 866.531.2055.